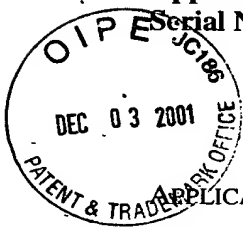


Applicant: Kim et al.  
Serial No.: 09/303,216

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Attorney Docket No. VPI/97-101 CIP CON



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Kim et al.  
ASSIGNEE: Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated  
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/303,216 EXAMINER: M. Allen  
FILING DATE: April 30, 1999 ART UNIT: 1631  
FOR: CRYSTALS OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS HELICASE OR FRAGMENTS  
THEREOF COMPRISING A HELICASE BINDING POCKET

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**CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any documents referred to as enclosed therein, is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an enveloped addressed to: Box PCT, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202, on this 3rd day of December, 2001.

Angela J. Billings

December 3, 2001  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Box RCE  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
PO Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136 (a) and §1.17 (a) (3), applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time to respond to the June 5, 2001 (5.6.2001) FINAL OFFICE ACTION in the above-identified application. With the extension, the response is due on or before December 5, 2001. Please charge any additional fees that may required, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0725, Reference No. VPI/97-101 CIP CON. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew S. Marks Reg. No. 33,259  
Attorney for Applicants  
c/o Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated  
130 Waverly Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02130  
Tel: (617) 444-6692  
Fax: (617) 444-6483

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